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REMARKS

The Office action has been carefully considered. The Office action

rejected claims 88-142 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S.

Patent No. 6,571,245 to Huang et al. (hereinafter "Huang"). Applicants

respectfully disagree.

Claims 88, 89, 99, 101, 118, 123, 125, 126, 135, and 136 are amended.

Applicants submit that the claims as filed were patentable over the prior art of

record, and that the amendments herein are for purposes of clarifying the claims

and/or for expediting allowance of the claims and not for reasons related to

patentability. For the reasons discussed in detail below, all of the pending claims

are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants thanks the Examiner for the interview held (by telephone) on

November 18, 2005. During the interview, the Examiner and applicants'

attorney discussed the claims with respect to the prior art. The essence of

applicants' position is incorporated in the remarks below. Prior to discussing

reasons why applicants believe that the claims in this application are clearly

allowable in view of the teachings of the cited and applied references, a brief

description of the present invention is presented.

Applicants' technique is generally directed towards a shell user interface

that provides for an aggregation of local and web information on a personal

computer. The shell user interface includes multiple pages that are

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interconnected through hyperlinks. The pages are arranged in a hierarchical

manner and form a single unified manner for accessing programs, documents,

system information, and devices regardless of source location (whether local or

remote). Programs, documents and websites may be registered at the personal

computer with the multiple-page shell user interface and information about the

programs, such as categories and capabilities may be written into a database.

Additionally, programs, documents, and websites may also be registered at the

personal computer with particular pages.

The shell user interface provides one place on the personal computer from

which a user may access resources, without opening separate programs and

menus to locate the resources. This shell user interface simplifies locating

resources. For example, rather than clicking on file exploring software, such as

Microsoft® Internet Explorer, to locate local files and Internet content, along with a

system toolbar to access system resources and external devices, a user can use

the shell user interface of the present invention to locate the files, content and

resources.

Note that the above description is for informational purposes only, and

should not be used to interpret the claims, which are discussed below.

Turning to the claims, amended claim 88 generally recites providing and

selecting from the user interface, comprising registering a computer resource at a

personal computer, wherein the resource is among a plurality of computer

resources that are part of the personal computer system, with a shell user

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interface as one of a group of computer resources displayed as a link upon a page within a plurality of pages of the shell user interface; the plurality of pages are arranged in a hierarchy, and each page of the plurality of pages that is lower in the hierarchy is reachable through at least one other page of the plurality of pages that is higher in the hierarchy through at least one link on the other page, displaying on the page in the shell user interface the link associated with the computer resource registered as one of the group of computer resources, receiving a signal indicative of a selection of the link via the user interface, and executing code associated with the link in response to receiving the signal.

The Office action rejected claim 88 as being anticipated by Huang. More specifically, the Office action contends that Huang teaches registering a computer resource with a shell user interface as one of a group of computer resources displayed as a link upon a page within a plurality of pages of the shell user interface. Column 7, line 10 to column 8, line 35 of Huang is referenced. Further, the Office action contends that Huang teaches wherein the plurality of pages are arranged in a hierarchy, and wherein each page of the plurality of pages that is lower in the hierarchy is reachable through at least one other page of the plurality of pages that is higher in the hierarchy through at least one link on the other page. Fig. 4, items 426, 436, and 446 of Huang are referenced. Further yet, the Office action contends that Huang teaches displaying on the page in the shell user interface the link associated with the computer resource registered as one of the group of computer resources. Column 4, line 30-46 of

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Huang is referenced. Still further, the Office action contends that Huang teaches receiving a signal indicative of a selection of the link via the user interface and executing code associated with the link in response to receiving the signal. Column 7, lines 34-50 of Huang is referenced. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Huang is generally directed towards a system and method for providing a virtual desktop in a virtual computing environment to a computer platform that may communicate with a network of server computers. Specifically, Huang teaches maintaining a user's preferred desktop (*i.e.*, the "look and feel") including a number of file folder structures and links to various resources in which the user is accustomed to on the user's primary computer platform. These desktop aspects are maintained on one or more network servers such that a user may retrieve the desktop settings at any local computer, laptop computer, or other computing platform. The system of Huang, however, is not intended to be a standalone system that may function without using the network of servers wherein the desktop settings are stored. Thus, the virtual desktop cannot function without first retrieving at least some desktop settings from the network server.

In contrast, claim 88 has been amended to recite registering, at a personal computer, a computer resource that is among a plurality of computer resources that are part of the personal computer system with a shell user interface as one of a group of computer resources displayed as a link upon a page within a plurality of pages of the shell user interface. That is, the registering of a

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computer resource may be implemented at the personal computer, maintained at

the personal computer, retrieved from the personal computer and associated with

a computer resource that is part of the personal computer (such as a disk drive,

or display screen). The system of Huang does not teach registering computer

resources at the personal computer. Rather, Huang teaches registering

computer resources at a network server such that the registered computer

resource may be associated with a virtual desktop retrievable only via the

network server.

Furthermore, claim 88 recites displaying on the page in the shell user

interface the link associated with the computer resource registered as one of the

group of computer resources. Since Huang does not teach registering the

computer resource in the manner recited previously in claim 88, Huang cannot

possibly be construed to display an interface linked to the registered computer

resource. Any link in Huang must necessarily be a remote link because the

entire virtual desktop is retrieved from the network server. For at least these

reasons, applicants submit that claim 88 is allowable over the prior art of record.

Turning to the next independent claim, amended claim 89 essentially

recites providing and selecting from a user interface, comprising registering, at a

personal computer, a resource that is among a plurality of computer resources

that are part of the personal computer system with a shell user interface as one

of a group of resources to be display on a page, the resource including at least

one of a document, a program, a task stored in the computer system, and a

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device of the computer system, displaying a first page comprising: a first link

associated with a second page and a second link associated with the resource

registered as part of the group of resources, in response to a signal indicative of

a selection of the first link via the user interface, displaying the second page and

in response to a signal indicative of a selection of the second link via the user

interface, executing code associated with the resource registered as part of the

group of resources.

The Office action rejected claim 89 as being anticipated by Huang. More

specifically, the Office action contends that Huang teaches registering a resource

with a shell user interface as one of a group of resources to be displayed on a

page. Column 7, line 10 to column 8, line 35 of Huang is referenced. Further,

the Office action contends that Huang teaches the resource including at least

one of a document, a program, a task stored in the computer system, and a

device of the computer system. Fig. 3, items 340 and 334 of Huang are

referenced. Further yet, the Office action contends that Huang teaches a first

link associated with a second page and a second link associated with the

resource registered as part of the group of resources and in response to a signal

indicative of a selection of the first link via the user interface, displaying the

second page. Fig. 4, items 426, 436, and 446 of Huang are referenced. Finally,

the Office action contends that Huang in response to a signal indicative of a

selection of the second link via the user interface, executing code associated with

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the resource registered as part of the group of resources. Column 7, lines 34-50 of Huang is referenced. Applicants respectfully disagree.

As discussed above, Huang is directed, generally, toward providing a virtual desktop to a computer platform via a network server computer that has stored thereon, a number of links, files, folders, and parameters generally associated with a computer system desktop. As has been shown, however, Huang cannot function on a standalone system as the desktop must be provided via the network server. Thus, all stored links, files, resources and parameters are stored at the network server. This is in direct contrast the method recited in claim 89.

Claim 89 essentially recites registering a resource at a personal computer (in which the resource is among a plurality of computer resources that are part of the personal computer system) with a shell user interface as one of a group of resources to be displayed on a page, the resource including at least one of a document, a program, a task stored in the computer system, and a device of the computer system. That is, the registering of a computer resource is implemented at the personal computer, maintained at the personal computer, retrieved from the personal computer and/or associated with a computer resource that is part of the personal computer (such as a disk drive, or display screen). The system of Huang does not teach registering computer resources at the personal computer. Rather, Huang teaches registering computer resources at a network server such

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that the registered computer resource may be associated with a virtual desktop

that is retrievable only via the network server.

Furthermore, claim 89 recites the resource including at least one of a

document, a program, a task stored in the computer system, and a device of the

computer system. Since Huang does not teach registering the computer

resource in the manner recited previously in claim 89, Huang cannot possibly be

construed to display an interface linked to these kinds of locally registered

computer resources. Any link in Huang must necessarily be a remote link,

because the entire virtual desktop is retrieved from the network server. For at

least these reasons, applicants submit that claim 89 is allowable over the prior art

of record.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 90-98, by similar

analysis, are allowable. Each of these claims depends either directly or indirectly

from claim 89 and consequently includes the recitations of independent claim 89.

As discussed above, Huang fails to disclose the recitations of claim 89 and

therefore these claims are also allowable over the prior art of record. In addition

to the recitations of claim 89 noted above, each of these dependent claims

includes additional patentable elements.

Turning to the next claim, amended claim 99 recites a method of providing

and selecting from a user interface, by registering, at a personal computer, tasks

that are among a plurality of tasks that are part of the personal computer system,

the tasks available for a plurality of application programs with a shell user

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interface, grouping a set of the tasks to be displayed on a page of the shell user

interface, displaying links to each of the tasks in the set on the page, each of the

links being associated with a particular task in the set; and in response to a

signal indicative of a selection of one of the links via the user interface, taking

action with respect to the task associated with the link.

The Office action rejected claim 99 for identical reasons as to why claim

88 was rejected. As before, applicants respectfully disagree. Claim 99

essentially recites registering a task from among tasks that are part of the

personal computer system, with the tasks available for a plurality of application

programs with a shell user interface. As shown above, Huang does not teach

this concept. Any registering of tasks or otherwise, in Huang, is done so at a

network computer. As such, all tasks, files, resources, or otherwise must

necessarily be linked through the network and provided via the network.

Applicants submit that Huang does not teach the recitations of claim 99, or teach

the related computer-readable medium of claim 100, and that these claims are

allowable over the prior art of record for at least the foregoing reasons.

Turning to the next independent claim, amended claim 101 generally

recites providing and selecting from a user interface, by providing a shell user

interface having a plurality of pages including a first page, wherein the plurality of

pages are arranged in a hierarchy, and wherein each page of the plurality of

pages that is lower in the hierarchy is reachable through at least one other page

of the plurality of pages that is higher in the hierarchy through at least one

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hyperlink on the other page, registering, at a personal computer, files that are among a plurality of files that are part of the personal computer system with the shell user interface as one of a group of resources to be displayed on the first page, displaying on the first page a file link for each of the files, and in response to a signal indicative of a selection of one of the file links via the user interface, taking action with respect to the file associated with the file link.

The Office action rejected claim 101 as being anticipated by Huang and cited the exact same reasons in this rejection as were cited with respect to claim 88. As was the case in claim 88, Huang does not teach registering files at the personal computer system. All registered files, in Huang, are maintained at a server computer and only accessible via the networked server. For many of the same or similar reasons as discussed throughout, applicants submit that claim 101 is allowable over the prior art of record.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 102-117, by similar analysis, are allowable. Each of these claims depends either directly or indirectly from claim 101 and consequently includes the recitations of independent claim 101. As discussed above, Huang fails to disclose the recitations of claim 101 and therefore these claims are also allowable over the prior art of record. In addition to the recitations of claim 101 noted above, each of these dependent claims includes additional patentable elements.

Turning to the next independent claim, amended claim 118 is directed to a method similar to claim 88, but recites, in pertinent part, registering, at a personal

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computer, executable code (which typically is different from a computer resource as recited in claim 88) that is among a plurality of sources of executable code that are part of the personal computer system with a shell user interface as one of a group of resources to be displayed on a first page within a plurality of pages of the shell user interface, wherein the plurality of pages are arranged in a hierarchy. The Office action rejected claim 118 as being anticipated by Huang and cited the exact same reasons in this rejection as were cited with respect to claim 88. Much like a computer resource, as was the case in claim 88, Huang does not teach registering executable code at the personal computer system. All registered code is maintained at a server computer and only accessible via a network link. For many of the same reasons as discussed throughout, applicants submit that claim 118 is allowable over the prior art of record.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 119-124, by similar analysis, are allowable. Each of these claims depends either directly or indirectly from claim 118 and consequently includes the recitations of independent claim 118. As discussed above, Huang fails to disclose the recitations of claim 118 and therefore these claims are also allowable over the prior art of record. In addition to the recitations of claim 118 noted above, each of these dependent claims includes additional patentable elements.

Applicants submit that independent claims 125, 126, 134, and 136, as well as their respective dependent claims, 127-133, 135, and 137-142, each recite similar aspects to those discussed throughout this response. Specifically, the

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concept that files, resources, executable code, and the like are registered,
maintained, displayable, and functional all from within a personal computer
system within the context of a shell user interface. All of the claims of the
present invention are directed toward a system or method practicable entirely
within a single, standalone personal computer and have particular recitations
directed toward such an end. Huang is directed to a server/client relationship
where most storable and linkable information is accessible only through the
network server. Thus, Huang specifically teaches away from the present
invention. As amended, each of the remaining independent claims being
discussed here recites language directed to registering or maintaining
information (resources, files, tasks, *etc.*) entirely within a personal computer
system and these recitations are not taught by Huang. Applicants submit that
claims 125-142 are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the foregoing
reasons.

For at least these additional reasons, applicants submit that all the claims
are patentable over the prior art of record. Reconsideration and withdrawal of
the rejections in the Office action is respectfully requested and early allowance of
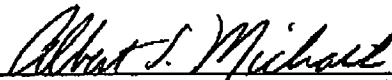this application is earnestly solicited.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 88-142 of the present application are patentable over the prior art of record, and that the application is in good and proper form for allowance. A favorable action on the part of the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

If in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (425) 836-3030.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert S. Michalik, Reg. No. 37,395
Attorney for Applicants
Law Offices of Albert S. Michalik, PLLC
704 - 228th Avenue NE, Suite 193
Sammamish, WA 98074
(425) 836-3030
(425) 836-8957 (facsimile)

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this Amendment, Amendment Transmittal, petition for

extension of time, credit card payment form, and Petition for Extension of Time

are being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark

Office in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.6(d) on the date shown below:

Date: January 20, 2006

Albert S. Michalik

2310 Fourth Amendment

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